ENTERTAINMENT / A2-1



Tony Butala of the Lettermen: Not in it for the money

SPORTS / A22

Pacquiao arriving today to hero's welcome

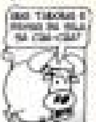
BUSINESS / B1

RP borrowings reached P614.7B in 2005

ACROSS / A15

Isabela, Aurora folk flee flooding as 'Agaton' brings rains, landslides

Pacquiao, celebrities eyed for Cha-cha drive



By Jerry E. Esplanada

ENLISTING THE LOOKS OF Filipino boxing idol Manny Pacquiao and Miss International Lara Quigaman among other sports luminaries and movie and TV stars in rooting for

PACQUIAO/A17

email: feedback@inquirer.com.ph

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

Friday, January 27, 2006 ★★ 7 sections / Vol. 21 / No. 58 P18 website: www.inq7.net

Pray, Silent Majority movement tells Filipinos

By Christian V. Esguerra

IF ALL ELSE FAILS, THERE'S PRAYER TO turn to.

So so hopes a group led by a Roman Catholic bishop which is organizing a movement to rally Filipinos behind the power of prayer as a way of dealing with the political and economic crises.

The Silent Majority Prayer Movement will hold

PRAY/A18

Use of ₱100-M fund probed

Marcos loot released during '04 elections

By Philip C. Tubeza

ABOUT P100 MILLION of the Marcos Swiss bank deposits recovered by the government financed the Department of Agriculture's farm inputs program—which critics claim was used to support President Macapagal-Arroyo's 2004 election campaign—documents from the department showed.

A total of P98.8 million from the Marcos fund was allocated to 13 regional field units (RFU) of the Department of Agriculture in urban areas like Quezon City and Iloilo City.

Sixty percent of the money was released on May 3, 2004, a week before the elections, according to the documents.

The money was part of the P544 million set aside for the Ginintuang Masaganang Ani (GMA) hybrid rice program, which was allegedly used to induce public officials to support Ms Arroyo's candidacy and ensure her victory in areas where the funds were distributed.

The P544 million itself was

LOOT/A18



FILIPINO OF THE YEAR

Members of Team Philippines, the overwhelming choice of the Inquirer for Filipino of the Year, pose with Inquirer chair Marixi Prieto and president Sandy Prieto-Romualdez (center) at Wednesday night's fete for them at the Inquirer office. The Filipino athletes earned the honor, accorded every year to a living Filipino who makes a positive impact on the life of the nation, for their inspiring performance in last year's 23rd Southeast Asian Games.

PSG 'not immune' to destabilizers–Gonzalez

By Armand N. Nocum and Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

PRESIDENT MACAPAGAL-ARROYO STILL "trusts" the Presidential Security Group, but the elite force is "not immune" from recruitment by groups bent on unseating her, Justice Secretary Raul Gonzalez said yesterday.

Gonzalez said the President was not acting out of paranoia when she transferred PSG chief Brig. Gen. Delfin Bangit to another unit. But he said the government was well aware of the fact that "you always have to keep your guard."

"That does not mean there are people who are happy all the time ... in the chain of command. Even the PSG is not immune from attempts by destabilizers [to lure it to their cause]," Gonzalez told the Inquirer.

The justice secretary said even Speaker Jose de Venecia Jr., by his own admission, was the target of such a group.

"But he rejected their overtures," Gonzalez said.

He said Ms Arroyo was just being cautious, given the reported ongoing recruitment of junior military officers for a coup d'etat.

At the Palace, Executive Secretary Eduardo Ermita insisted that Ms Arroyo was not afraid of the military.

"There is no reason to believe and even think that the President would ever be thought of as being afraid of the military. She is the Commander in Chief and she is the one who gives orders and utilizes the military establishment to serve the national interest, to provide security for the republic," Ermita said, when asked to comment on Ms Arroyo's perceived wariness of the military.

PSG/A6

Gov't asked to allot ₱10B for ML victims

By Philip C. Tubeza

SEN. JOKER ARROYO YESTERday asked the Department of Finance and the Department of Budget and Management to set aside $200 million of the Marcos Swiss bank deposits recovered by the government to compensate the human rights victims of martial law.

"We request that the peso equivalent of $200 million be retained and set aside, and that the amount be transferred to a trust account, which cannot be touched in any except for the purpose as stated by [the Senate bill]," Arroyo wrote Finance Secretary Margarito Teves and Budget Secretary Romulo Neri.

At the present exchange rate of P52.46 to a dollar, $200 million is worth P10.49 billion.

Arroyo made the request after budget officials said only P8 billion had been set aside for the victims, or P2 billion short of the P10 billion set aside by administration-sponsored human rights compensation bills in the Senate and the House of Representatives.

"The two bills speak of P10 billion

GOV'T ASKED/A18

Davide: No politics, I just want to help

By Jolene R. Bulambot
PDI Visayas Bureau

CEBU CITY—RETIRED CHIEF Justice Hilario Davide Jr. yesterday defended his decision to accept his appointment as President Macapagal-Arroyo's adviser on electoral reforms, saying it had nothing to do with politics.

"I do not think it's politics-related in the concept of politics in the minds of those who asked me that before. Politics, for me, is running for political positions and I said so that I would not run ... for an elective post. I don't want a position that is related to politics," he said.

Davide told the Inquirer in an interview that he accepted the post because he believed that he could help institute structural reforms to achieve an honest and credible election process in the country.

As presidential adviser, he said he would be in a position to address electoral concerns and "the

DAVIDE/A18



FQS REMEMBERED

A mural depicting the tumultuous events of the First Quarter Storm of 1970 is unveiled by FQS veteran Bienvenido Lumbera (left) and Dan Bagatsing (representing Manila Mayor Lito Atienza) in front of the old Congress building (now the National Museum). The unveiling on Thursday marked the 36th anniversary of the pitched battle between Marcos troops and unarmed activists.

SWS: One thing constant is pride in being Filipino

By Jamie Alarcon
PDI Research

AMID ECONOMIC UNCERTAINTY, POLITical instability and the exodus of Filipinos for abroad, independent pollster Social Weather Stations says it has found one thing constant in the various surveys that it has conducted through the years—pride in being Filipino.

"Pride in being Filipino is very high and impervious to crises," SWS president Mahar Mangahas said yesterday in a presentation of the 2006 SWS Survey Review at the Asian Institute of Management Conference Center in Makati.

"Public morale and equanimity is dented but indestructible," Mangahas said.

Survey figures in 2005 showed that four out of every five Filipinos would greet the New Year with hope rather than with fear, and feel very proud to be Filipino.

The annual recap of SWS findings included results from the quarterly Social Weather Surveys and the annual Survey of Enterprises on Corruption.

Another bright spot in Mangahas' 70-slide presentation was how the Filipinos surveyed continued to prefer democracy "even though it was not working well lately."

In September 2005, 44 percent of those surveyed were "satisfied with how democracy works," and 58 percent "always preferred democracy" against the 19 percent

SWS: ONE/A6

WEATHER FORECAST

Second FRONTPAGE

Judge recalls warrants vs GIs

OLONGAPO CITY—THE JUDGE HANDLING THE Subic rape case has recalled the arrest warrant issued against the four accused United States Marines and deferred hearings on the case until after the Department of Justice has completed its review of the findings of state prosecutors.

Rival Moro factions clash

EO 464 killed wiretap probe—Golez

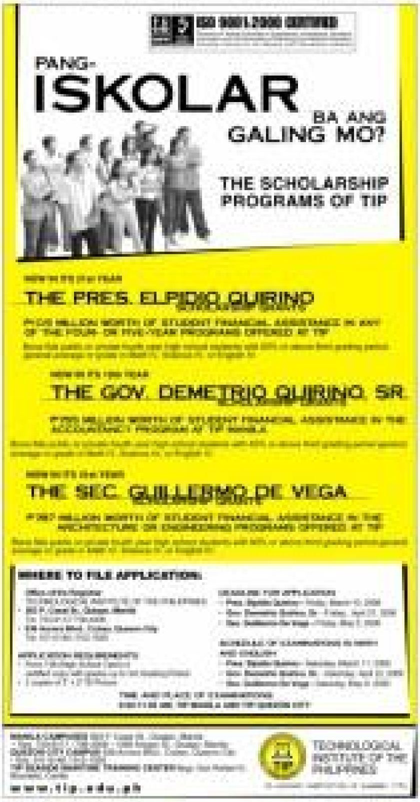
By Michael Lim Ubac

Palace gives bishops nat'l situation briefing

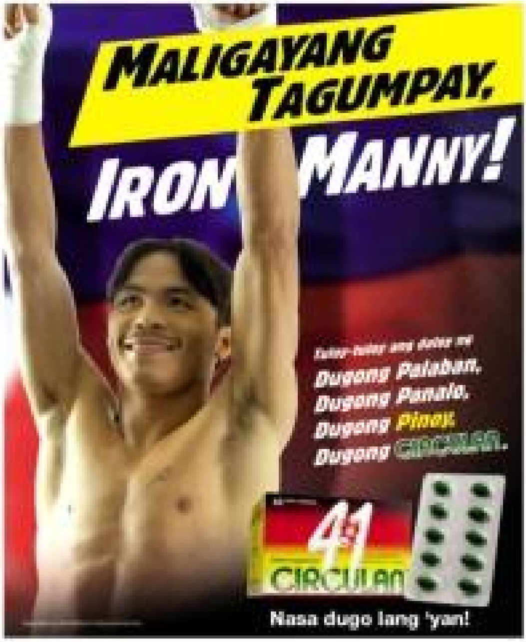
Power grab futile – JDV

By Michael Lim Ubac

Labor group bats for English as medium of instruction







PSG 'not immune' to destabilizers–Gonzalez

Loyalty check

Praise for Bangit



BANGIT: All the talk making our people more tense, apprehensive.

Holganza

Surveillance

Corrections

SWS: One thing constant is pride in being Filipino

Fantastic

Economic well-being

President's negative rating

Enthusiasm about US



The launching of the beginnings of the first regional political organization in Asia

Centrist Democrat International (CDI) Asia-Pacific and the Global Interfaith Dialogue


Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo
President, Philippines
Chairperson, Lakas CMD


Jose Maria Aznar
President, CDI
Former Prime Minister, Spain


Speaker Jose de Venecia
Vice President CDI
President, Lakas CMD
Acting Head, CDI Asia Pacific


Fidel V. Ramos
Chairman Emeritus
Lakas CMD, CDI


Surakiart Sathirathai
Dep. Prime Minister, Thailand
ASEAN Nominee for U.N. Secretary General


Pier Ferdinando Casini
President, Italian Parliament
President, Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU)

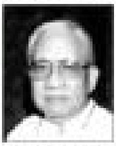

Prince Norodom Ranariddh
President, Funcinpec Party
Speaker, Cambodian Parliament
Former Prime Minister


Theo Sambuaga
Deputy Chairman, Golkar
Senior Member, Indonesian Parliament


Kjell Magne Bondevik
Former Prime Minister
Norway


Wilfried Martens
President, European People's Party
Former Prime Minister, Belgium


Dr. Mohamed Sharif
Secretary General, World Islamic Call Society

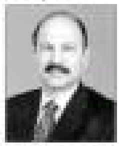

Ricardo Cardinal Vidal
Archbishop, Cebu


Antonio Lopez Isturiz
CDI Executive Secretary
Secretary General, European People's Party


Sheikh Dr. Saalih Bin Humaid
President, Saudi Consultative Council (Parliament)


Abdurrahman Wahid
Former President, Indonesia


Sok An
Deputy Prime Minister
Cambodia
Vice Chairman, Cambodian People's Party


Sen. Mushahid Hussain Sayed
Secretary General, Pakistan Muslim League

On January 27-28, 2006 the Centrist Democrat International (formerly Christian Democrat International) is launching two historic initiatives in Asia that will help define the future of regional integration—and the role of the world's great religions in building world peace and international goodwill.

Inspired by the political integration of Europe that was achieved more than half a century ago, the CDI is launching its fledgling CDI Asia-Pacific, nurtured by ten major political parties from eight nations. This is a moment of great significance, the beginnings of a region-wide political organization that stretches from the Hindu Kush to the Korean Peninsula.

The founding parties

Following their earlier signing of the founding document, the ten founding parties and their respective leaders gather at the Manila Hotel to convene their first meeting. They are the leaders of:

- Lakas Christian Muslim Democrats (Philippines), led by President *Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo*, chairperson; former President *Fidel V. Ramos*, chairman emeritus; and Speaker *Jose de Venecia*, president;
- Funcinpec Party (Cambodia) of Prince *Norodom Ranariddh*, president of the National Assembly;
- Cambodia People's Party represented by Deputy Prime Minister *Sok An*;
- Indian National Congress (India), represented by senior MP *Shri Murli Deora*;
- Uri Party (South Korea), represented by Chung Eui-yong, Party Chairman on Foreign Relations;
- Pakistan Muslim League (Pakistan), represented by its Secretary-General, Sen. *Mushahid Hussain Sayed*;
- United Malay National Organization (Malaysia), represented by Secretary-General Dato Mohd Radzi bin Sheikh Ahmad;
- Thai Rak Thai Party (Thailand), represented by Deputy Prime Minister *Surakiart Sathirathai*;
- Golkar Party (Indonesia), represented by Deputy Chairman *Theo Sambuaga*;
- Democratic Party of Indonesia, represented by Ambassador Irvan Tanjung.

As observer, the Communist Party of China is sending to the launching Chinese Ambassador *Li Jinjun* and Political Officer *James T. Lin*.

The forces of the middle

As the "forces of the middle," the ten founding parties are helping transform the economic face of Asia in the relentless fight against poverty, terrorism and injustice; in the coming decades they hope to strengthen as well the region's politics into one of vision and performance; enlarge the scope of the Asian economic miracle, and build upon these gains an enduring peace for all its peoples. Eventually, de Venecia sees an Asian People's Party emerging to spearhead economic and political integration of the region, culminating possibly in an Asian Union or Asian Community.

Some of Europe's great political leaders and Centrist Democrats are in Manila to co-launch this initiative: former Prime Minister of Spain *Jose Maria Aznar*, the CDI president; *Pier Ferdinando Casini*, president of Italy's Chamber of Deputies and newly elected president of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU); former Prime Minister of Belgium *Wilfried Martens*, president of the CDI's European People's Party, which has 80 member-parties and the majority in the European Parliament; former Prime Minister of Norway *Kjell Magne Bondevik*, who is helping in the peace process in Sri Lanka and the Philippines; and *Antonio Lopez Isturiz*, CDI executive secretary and secretary general of the European People's Party. The CDI represents 110 political parties in Europe, Latin America, Africa and Asia, some of which are ruling parties or in coalition with their governments.

A common agenda for peace

In the second of its two significant initiatives, the CDI gathers the great leaders of the world's major religions for the Global Interfaith Dialogue. Muslims (Shiites and Sunnis), Christians (Catholics and Protestants), Buddhists, Hindus, Confucians and Jews will sit down and reason together to draw up a common agenda for achieving peace and fraternity in the Asian continent and in the world. They hope to contribute to lessening tensions and politico-religious conflicts in the various regions of the world.

Among the speakers at the Global Interfaith Conference are: Archbishop *Ricardo Cardinal Vidal* of Cebu, the senior Roman Catholic leader in the Philippines; *Abdurrahman Wahid*, the former president of Indonesia whose religious party has some 80 million members; *Dr. Abdullah Bin Abdul Mohsin Al-Turki*, secretary general of the Muslim World League (Rabitah); *Sheikh Dr. Saalih Bin Humaid*, president of the Saudi Consultative Council (Parliament); *Dr. Mohamed Sharif* of Libya, the secretary general of the World Islamic Call Society; *Rev. Dr. Chung Hwan Kwak*, chairman of the Universal Peace Foundation (UPF); and *Dr. Thomas Walsh*, secretary general of the UPF; El Shaddai leader *Bro. Mike Velarde*, Bishop *Efraim Tendero*, and *Makol Mutilan*, president of Muslim Mindanao's Ompia party. The day-long program is the product of months of preparation undertaken by the Organizing Committee headed by *Francis Manglapus*, Lakas CMD deputy secretary general, and *Francisco Aciz* of the CDI Asia-Pacific region.

UN endorses Interfaith Dialogue

The Global Interfaith Dialogue, which President *Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo* and *Speaker de Venecia* originally proposed to the United Nations in 2004, was formally adopted by the General Assembly in November 2004 as a mechanism to mediate centuries-old ethnic and politico-religious conflicts that continue to bedevil nations in the world. Interfaith dialogues at the global and regional levels are evolving into meaningful mechanisms to deter violence, strengthen moderates, and eventually isolate extremists.

The CDI Executive Committee chaired by Aznar will also convene its first Asian conference in Manila. On Saturday the CDI-organized gathering ends with two conferences—Economic Development and Women and Human Rights.

The CDI's expansion into Asia recognizes the region's increasing importance in the midst of global social, economic and political transformation.

These amulets bring bad luck

By Luige A. del Puerto

[illegible]

Hubby can't post bail for Dinky

[illegible]

US to extradite American to RP

[illegible]



A

Ship runs aground in Apo reef

Pinay flees cruelty, lives after fall

The WORLD

Hamas in stunning win in Palestinian poll

RAMALLAH, WEST BANK—THE ISLAMIC MILITANT group Hamas captured a majority of seats in Palestinian legislative elections, officials in Hamas and the ruling Fatah Party said Thursday—a devastating upset that is sure to throw Mideast peacemaking into turmoil.

AP

Bush links home spying to Osama tape

AP



PRICEY SAN FRANCISCO

Civil liberties group sues US gov't for denying visa to Muslim scholar

AP

India's last freedom heroes recall torture under UK rule

AFP

WORLDBRIEFS

Astronomers find planet

AP

Bird flu death in China

Branded wife

AP

Bolivia first lady

AFP

Republic of the Philippines
Region XII
PROVINCE OF COTABATO
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
Amas, Kidapawan City

TIME TO STAND UP FOR THE NATION'S HONOR

(A manifesto of the officials of North Cotabato in relation to the refusal of the US Government to turn over to the Philippine Courts the US soldiers charged with rape.)

Over the last few weeks, we, the officials of the Province of North Cotabato, followed with anxiety the story of a group of American soldiers charged with rape by a Filipina in Luzon.

While we realize that the soldiers are presumed innocent until proven guilty, we watched with great interest the handling by the United States Government of the case considering the fact that we are also hosting for the second time a group of American soldiers under the Balance Piston program which is part of the Balikatan Exercises.

We were therefore greatly disappointed when, as reported in the media, the US Government refused to allow the American soldiers to be placed under the jurisdiction of the Philippine courts.

The arrogance displayed by the US Government in this case is unbecoming of a nation which for so long has been considered as an ally of the Philippines and whose people are considered dear friends by many of us.

We, the officials of North Cotabato, look at this development with great concern. What if, God forbid, a similar case would happen during the conduct of the Balance Piston exercises in our province? Would the US government turn over the suspects to our local courts? With the Luzon case as a precedent, the answer is most probably No.

We cannot allow this to happen because in this little place we call home, we have always believed that No One is Above the Law.

In view of this, we, the Provincial Officials, met January 23 and agreed on the following positions:

1. **We are Filipinos and we cannot sit down and play host to the soldiers of a nation which insults and hurts a people who consider America a friend;**
2. **We call on the US Government, however small and faint our voices are, to respect the Philippines as a sovereign nation and immediately turn over the American soldiers charged with rape to the jurisdiction of the Philippine courts;**
3. **We call on President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo to inform the US Government of the officials of North Cotabato's desire to immediately suspend the Balance Piston Exercises in our province should the US continue to turn down the request of the Philippine courts to have jurisdiction over the accused American soldiers;**
4. **We agree that we will refuse the conduct of future Balikatan Exercises in the Province of North Cotabato if the US Government continues to display arrogance in cases like the alleged rape of a Filipina in Luzon.**

During the first conduct of the Balikatan Exercises, the Governor of the Province welcomed the officers of the US contingent by hosting the Governor's Night at the Provincial Capitol. This activity has been cancelled.

While we recognize the great help of the US Government in the rehabilitation program of our province which is a former conflict area – from agricultural assistance to books for our schools – we have to stand shoulder to shoulder with our fellow Filipinos who are deeply pained by the inconsiderate attitude of the American government.

We cannot just happily count the blessings we received from the US Government and turn a deaf ear and close our eyes to the fact that the whole nation is being slapped around and insulted by a country whose ideals of democracy and justice we so dearly embrace.

We are One People in One Nation called Republic of the Philippines.

Signed this 24th day of January 2006 at the Provincial Capitol in Amas, Kidapawan City, North Cotabato, the Philippines.

HON. EMMANUEL F. PIÑOL **Provincial Governor**	**HON. JESUS N. SACDALAN** **Provincial Vice Governor**

Provincial Board Members:

HON. SOLEMA P. JUBILAN	**HON. REYNALDO G. PAGAL**
HON. VAN R. CADUNGON	**HON. JOSE L. TEJADA**
HON. FREDDIE C. BAYNOSA	**HON. SHIRLYN MACASARTE-ESPUELAS**
HON. ELISEO JR. GARCESA, JR.	**HON. VICENTE C. SORUPIA, JR.**
HON. MANUEL T. DELA SERNA	**HON. FARIDA T. MALINGCO, AL HAJ**
HON. CELESTINO R. RAPACON	**HON. NONARD B. BILBAO**

HON. [illegible] MARIE P. GARCIA

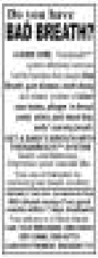
Release of Iraq women detainees may help free kidnapped US reporter



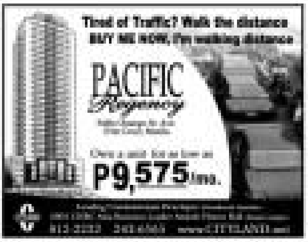








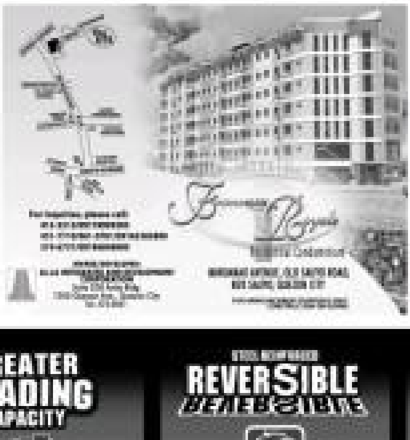






Americans face prosecution for child-sex tours









PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

OPINION



Dead end

EDITORIAL

THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCLUDED its joint committee hearings on the issue of wiretapping Wednesday without getting anywhere. The Arroyo administration, of course, will welcome the end of the House hearings and once more declare that closure has been achieved. It has not. [illegible]

Council of State? No, a cheering squad

AS I SEE IT

Neal H. Cruz



[illegible]

What the Court really said about Edsa 1

PASSION FOR REASON

Raul C. Pangalangan



[illegible]

Justice is reconciliation

COMMENTARY

Desmond Tutu

'Amor, te quiero mucho'

AT LARGE



Rina Jimenez-David

Technology and change

LOOKING BACK



Ambeth R. Ocampo

Seasons and rhythms

PINOY KASI



Michael L. Tan

Where Panganiban stands

LETTERS

'Pep talk' from horse's mouth

No desperate sergeants major



Imperfect past, present tense

VOICES ON INQ7.NET

Isabela, Aurora folk flee flooding

'Agaton' brings rains, landslides to villages

ILAGAN, ISABELA—CONTINUOUS RAINS brought by Tropical Depression Agaton since Wednesday have flooded 100 low-lying areas in Isabela's 35 towns as well as in the cities of Cauayan and Santiago.



New probe starts as MGB says cyanide levels safe

Girl, 5, killed in drug bust

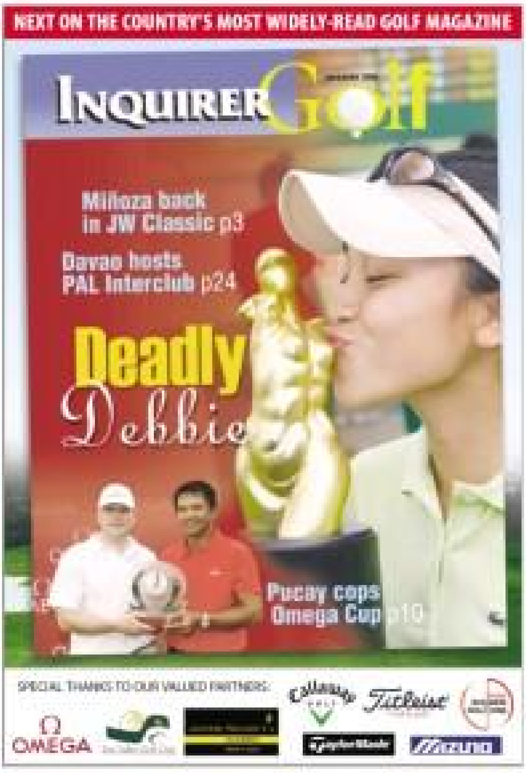


Graft in Pampanga quarrying described brazen, shameless

By Tonette Orejas
PDI Central Luzon Desk







NLEx execs to probe cause of smashups

By Tonette Orejas
PDI C. Luzon Desk

Pacquiao, celebrities eyed for Cha-cha drive

SPI signatures needed

Dangerous times

SWS survey

Use of P100-M fund probed

On top of fertilizer fund

PARC resolution

Three allotments

Gov't asked to allot ₱10B for martial law victims

Special fund

Depleted

Alarming

Davide: No politics, I just want to help

60-day work period

Crucial in a democracy

Jeopardy

Pray, Silent Majority movement tells Filipinos



Open to everyone

'Soldier's Prayer'

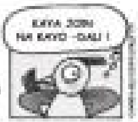
MMDA war on huge ad boards resumes

By Tara V. Quismundo

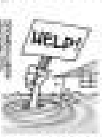
Powerless

MetroBriefs

Makati to launch bird club



From flood-prone to flood-free



Organic products at night market

SDK to hold grand reunion

Teen gang kills high school student

By Margaux C. Ortiz

Coming home in style





METRO

SUERTRES · SIX DIGIT · EZ2 · SUPERLOTTO 6/49

Las Piñas factories under tight watch

By Jocelyn R. Uy

[illegible]

Car thieves back in QC

[illegible]

Coming home in style

[illegible]

SPORTS



EO 441 BACKLASH

Sports under docs crazy–NSAs



KT challenge tomorrow



MADRIGAL

Roach sees no early Pacman-Morales III

Pacquiao arriving today in Manila

Konica Minolta pro-am rules set





Milo Marathon lures 4,500 bets

Poker Tour main event starts April 8

Ramos lashes at PFF for missing U-19 tilt

SPORTSWATCH

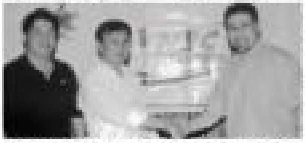
NCRAA suspends EAC for season

Inner Wheel golf fellowship on

FBL features seven games

Las Piñas cockfest: 94 fights

RACING TIPS



Magnolia, Rain or Shine prevail



Jarencio taking over as UST coach

Pacquiao Big Event derby at SJC Feb. 8

Bert Cuevas needs a helping hand

CLEAN LIVING

Manolo R. Iñigo





Giants shoot for 3-0 advantage vs Express



Amelie finally makes it

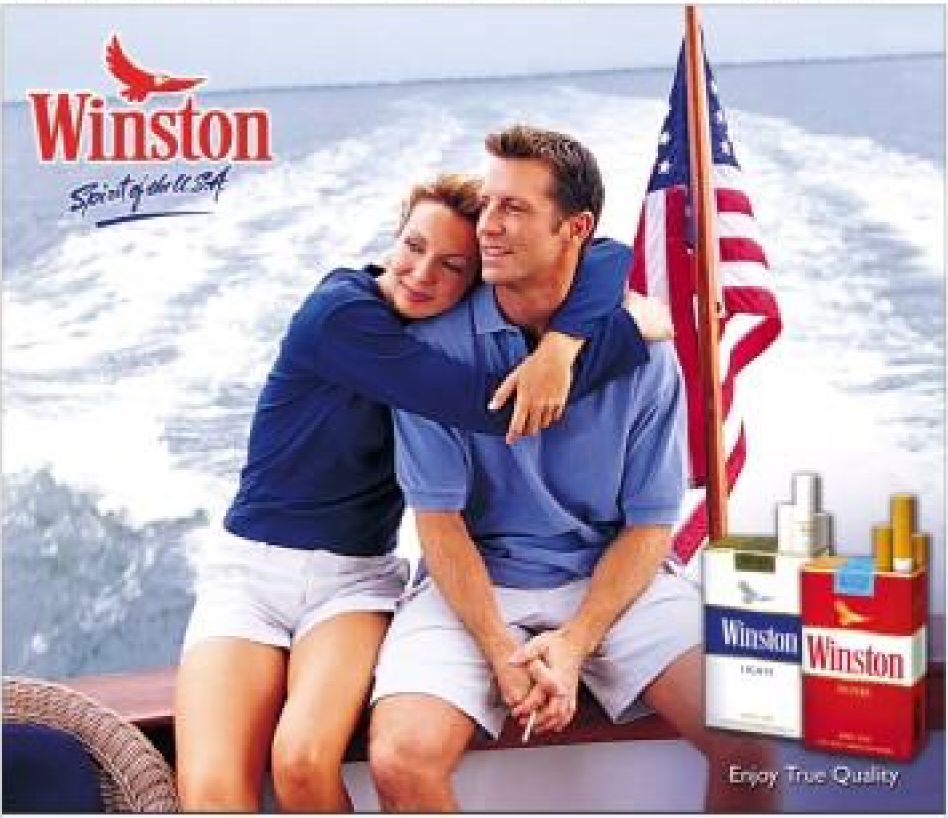
Faces Belgian in first 'Slam' final since 1999

MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA—FOR Kim Clijsters, it was one injury too many. For Amelie Mauresmo, it meant a long-awaited second chance at a Grand Slam title.





Ramos...



SPORTS

Kings get Artest, victory



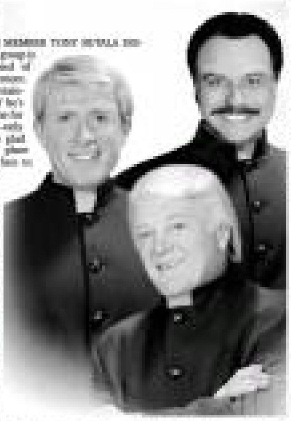
NEW YORK—MIKE Bibby poured in 35 points, including eight in overtime, as the Sacramento Kings edged the New York Knicks, 106-102, on Wednesday, then prepared for the arrival of Ron Artest.

Espiritu, Ramos off to Langkawi

ENTERTAINMENT

Not for the money

By Pocholo Concepcion
Contributor



Tony Butala of the Lettermen says he'd pay to perform

TAKE FIVE

AND they're "not a nostalgia group," insists Butala, bottom, a founding member

[illegible]

(The Lettermen's shows are on tonight and tomorrow night at the Araneta Coliseum, Jan. 29 in Iloilo, Jan. 30 in Cebu and Jan. 31 in Davao.)

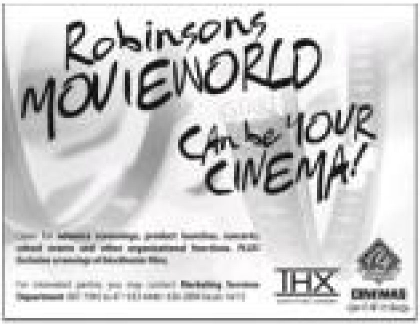
Singing tilts not just about musical talent

VIEWFINDER



Nestor U. Torre

[illegible]







Singing tilts not just about musical talent

[illegible]

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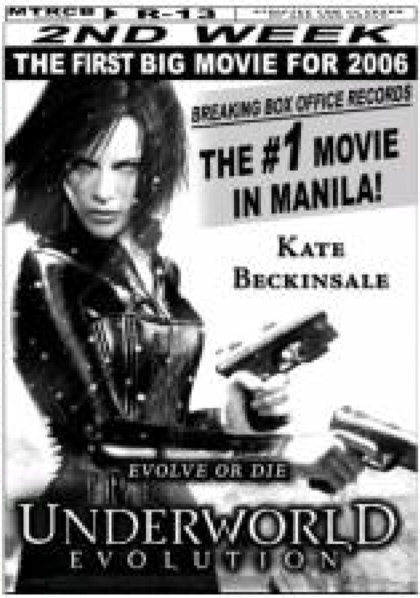
Daniel Moore is back

[illegible]

Young Global Citizens Camp

[illegible]





The blossoming of Auraeus Solito

Only in Hollywood



Ruben V. Nepales

Next stop: Rotterdam, then Berlin film fests

Filipinos in Park City, Utah, cheer director of 'Maximo,' RP's bet in Sundance



Strongest endorsement

Glowing description



At Redford's table

BIG, brave and brash

'Big Time' is a breath of much-needed fresh air in local movies

Review

BUSINESS

Editor Raul D. Marcelo
Assistant Editor Dawn B. Marlena

RP borrowings reached ₱614.7B in 2005

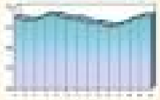
Gov't set to borrow ₱531.6B in '06 to fill ₱125-billion budget gap

THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT'S BORROWINGS FOR 2005 reached ₱614.7 billion, exceeding its program by ₱38.3 billion, as fiscal authorities last year decided to cover some of the government's financing requirements for 2006.

[illegible]

WHAT'S INSIDE

CURRENCIES



PESO-DOLLAR RATE

STOCK MARKET



Shares close 0.25% higher

[illegible]

Real estate firms draw clients away from insurance

THE LIFE INSURANCE INDUSTRY HAS BEEN losing ... partly due to the aggressive marketing efforts of real estate firms, according to the head of the country's largest insurer.

[illegible]

Fit to a Ty

COCKTAILS



Victor C. Agustin

Toyota's new driver

The car, not the company

Sinner is no Santos

Heard through the grapevine

PLDT unit buying 20% of Philweb

Terms of the deal, including price, under negotiation

By Clarissa S. Batino

First Gen lowers IPO price to ₱47/share

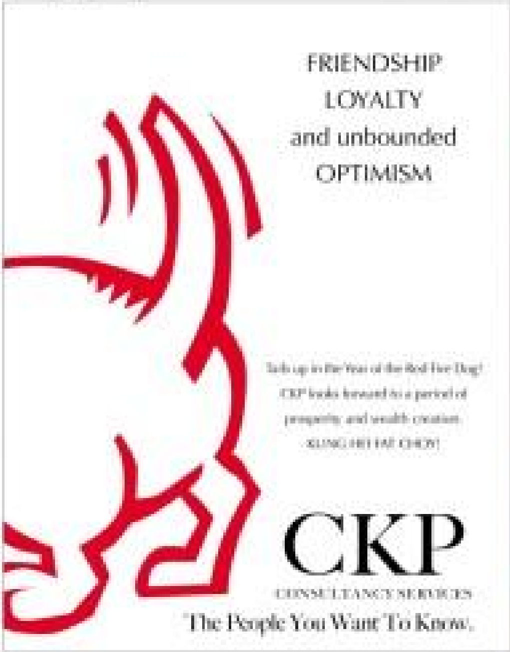
By Elizabeth L. Sanchez

PHILIPPINE STOCK EXCHANGE

CURRENCIES

Goldilocks eyes Asian markets

Real . . .



PRU LIFE INSURANCE CORPORATION OF U.K.
(A Wholly-Owned subsidiary of the Prudential Corporation Holdings Limited)

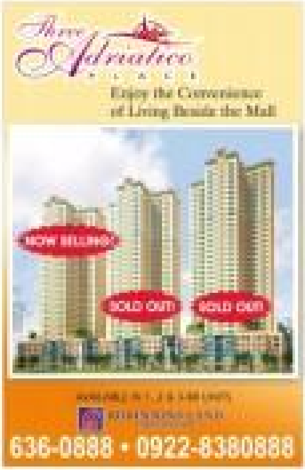
STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS
Year Ended December 31, 2004

REVENUES	
Premiums - net of reinsurance	P 1,931,590,868
Investment and Other Income	219,950,031
	2,151,540,899
UNDERWRITING, CLAIMS AND POLICY BENEFITS	
Increase in legal policy reserves	573,021,133
Commission, bonuses and other agents expenses	466,624,498
costs of premiums of variable insurance	377,674,391
Dividends to policyholder	95,905,614
Claims	63,052,295
Insurance taxes, licenses and fees	58,460,938
	1,634,579,859
OPERATING EXPENSES	
Salaries, allowances and employee benefits	165,298,150
Depreciation and amortization	38,711,637
Other operating expenses	217,289,530
	421,298,317
NET INCOME	P 185,871,723

Audited by Laya Mananghaya & Co. (KPMG)

PRU LIFE UK





Business

EU helps RP penetrate European market

By Michelle V. Remo



BDO seeks quick end to dispute over EPCIB

By Doris C. Dumlao

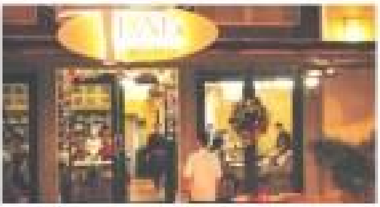
BUSINESS *Friday*



THE COMMUNIST country has been the darling of foreign investors over the past decade but figures show its competitiveness has been slipping.

Sell a country the way China markets itself

By Karen Y. De Bois



TEAK BISTRO at the Power Plant Mall

How Beaver can 'Teak' your palate



BEAVER Lopez

Siblings setting graphics trend in Singapore

By Vincent Cabreza
PDI Northern Luzon Bureau



SINGAPORE-BASED graphics artist Norman Adefuin works using free association techniques.

Philips Electronics posts 2005 net income



Sell a country the way China markets itself

CHINA'S efforts to attract investors extend to the national and local government, marketing paraphernalia, education and the tax system.

BUSINESS Friday



Abel Iloco replacing Hawaiian shirts

By Frank Cimatu



VIGAN CITY—Girls were dancing the hula before a group of Hawaiiances that included Hawaii Gov. Linda Lingle, her staff and about 100 Ilocano balikbayan.











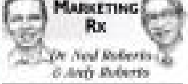


THE CLOTH can be embroidered to look like the classic barong Tagalog.



DESIGNERS have started hand painting the versatile cloth.

What do you do when your name is Ralph Lifshitz? (Advice from Al Ries)



LIFESTYLE

MONDAY BOOKS · TUESDAY FITNESS · WEDNESDAY 3BU · THURSDAY FOOD · FRIDAY FASHION & BEAUTY



Omega's latest timepieces for men and women define sporty luxury



Classy double treat

By Allison W. Lopez

THIS COMING VALentine is the perfect excuse to buy your ladylove a new watch, and grab yourself one that matches hers.

And with the [illegible] launch of Omega's latest Constellation Double Eagle models for men and women, there seems no other perfect choice.

This year, the Swiss brand expands its Double Eagle collection with a sportier version of the men's chronograph, and new ladies' watches sparkling with gold and diamonds.

The chronometer models, of course, still possess the same cutting-edge innovation exclusive to Omega—the Co-Axial Escapement, a special technology that reduces friction in movement and ensures better long-term accuracy.

First launched in 2003, the Double Eagle thus takes its name after the ultimate score in golf—a "double eagle," or a score of three under par. It's quite elusive as it requires a hole-in-one in a par-four hole or, as is more likely, two strokes on a par-five hole.

"This feat requires ultimate precision on the part of the golfer and therefore lends itself ideally as the name for these precision chronometers," says Gregory Kissling, Omega's product manager for Constellation, De Ville and Specialities.

Bestseller

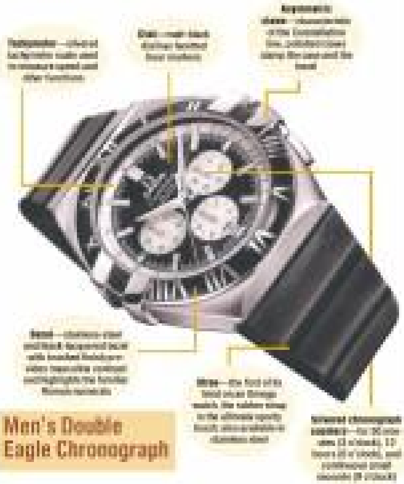
Since the Constellation was launched in 1952, it has been Omega's best-selling product, and top-of-the-range in pricing. "It is the emblem of the brand," Kissling says.

Unlike other high-end brands that stick only to classic lines, Kissling says Omega reaches out to different markets with its variety of watch collections. The Constellation is classified under Omega's fashion line of watches, with the Double Eagle as its sporty segment.

With the new men's chronograph, active style is taken a

CLASSY C4


GREGORY Kissling, Omega's product manager for Constellation, De Ville and Specialities.





BEAUTY

Contributing editor Ria Francisco-Prieto

E-mail me at rfbeauty@inquirer.com.ph

Tantal-eyes



NATURALLY stunning with the eyeshadow

By Ria Francisco-Prieto

THE EYES ARE known as windows to the soul, and rightfully so. They reveal emotion and thought. People can tell if a person's happy or sad just by looking at the eyes.

During photo shoots, the most common line cops I sometimes ask the models to emote with smiling, intense or fearful eyes. As funny as it sounds, the models understand. And with the help of makeup, expressions and moods are intensified.

When I was younger, I got into the habit of rubbing my eyes. My mom would tell me to stop and warn me about wrinkles. Now I find myself looking closely at the mirror and regretting not listening to my mom.

I'm now on the hunt for the most effective under-eye cream, perfect cream concealer and the best eye makeup remover.

I consider eye makeup the most exciting, and since I am now aware of how sensitive the under-eye area is (seven times more than the face), I am very careful when putting and removing makeup. Nowadays I pat, not rub.

In this story, the only makeup that was changed was the eye makeup. The first look is the natural preppy-girl look. In my opinion, every one should know how to put on eyeshadow without looking so made up. The eyeshadow is merely there to enhance your look.

Choose a neutral shade that will open up the lid. I prefer sheer as opposed to matte eyeshadow because it helps make the eyes look bright and awake. Mac has a lot of eyeshadow shades to choose from.

And if you want only one eyeshadow in your case, I highly recommend Mac. It may be a bit pricier than other brands, but the pigmentation is great and it lasts longer so you get your money's worth.

To polish your look, curl your lashes then apply mascara after. Try Maybelline's waterproof mascara. It's long-wearing and I love how the lashes look on my lashes.

The playful look is easy to do; it conveys fun. This look is more suited for the younger, more adventurous set. The most important aspect in this look is the color. It doesn't really take a lot of work or time. It may just mean using the "in" shade or using complementary colors on your lids.

For this story, the playful look just became the use of Mac Green eye-light pencil to line the lower lid. The eye-light pencil is a double-

TANTAL-EYES C3



Tantal-eyes

From page C1

[illegible]



Woman's breast friend

Makeover 911
Kenny Salao



FILIPINAS ARE BREAST size-obsessed. Since the start of my writing career there have been persistent requests from women who bemoan the fact that they are A-cups and below. The requests are, of course, along the line of "I want bigger breasts, but please do not advise me to get: 1. Breast implants—too drastic; 2. Breast enhancing pills—anything ingested may have scary side effects; 3. Gel cup enhancers and padded bras—very fun but not real solutions."

[illegible]

A treatment that firms up the face works well on the breasts, too



[illegible]

Understatement

[illegible]

cut & keep: black or white

Work with your skin tone to reveal the beautiful you.

All-natural

Just because neutral makeup is basic doesn't mean you have to look blank and boring

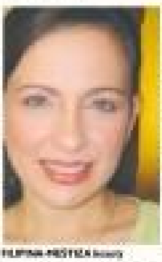


MORENA beauty

[illegible]

Porcelain beauty

Leave fine white skin alone



FILIPINA-MESTIZA beauty

ALMOST EVERYbody wants to be called "maputi," "mestiza" and "fair-porcelana." Who doesn't want to have that flawless, super-white skin?

[illegible]



Classy double treat

From page C1

notch higher with the introduction of the rubber strap—the first of its kind on an Omega watch—which is just right for the golf enthusiast who has to sweat it out in the sun. Of course, there's still the all-steel strap for men who prefer the classic look.

The gents' Double Eagle Chronograph uses the Omega calibre 3313, a self-winding chronometer movement fitted with Co-Axial Escapement, with power reserve of 55 hours.

Even with all the features the dial contains, the chronograph watch still has room for the date, so the gents won't forget we're nearing Feb. 14 (ahem).

Seven models

The ladies, meanwhile, will love the seven models they can choose from, though they may have a harder time with the various specifications. Some may like it big (31mm) or small (24mm), and some may choose to have it encrusted in diamonds in 18-carat yellow gold, two-tone 18-carat yellow gold and steel, or in all-steel versions. There's also the "mini-me" of the male chronometer in 31mm for that "His and Hers" look.

The 24mm versions use the Omega quartz calibre 1376, which has a battery lifetime of 32 months, while the 31mm models are powered by Omega's calibre 2500, also with the Omega Co-Axial Escapement, with power reserve of 48 hours.

All new Double Eagle models with the Co-Axial Escapement have a transparent sapphire crystal case back that shows off the mechanical movement, while quartz watches have a case back stamped with the Constellation's observatory emblem, as well as the Double Eagle inscription.

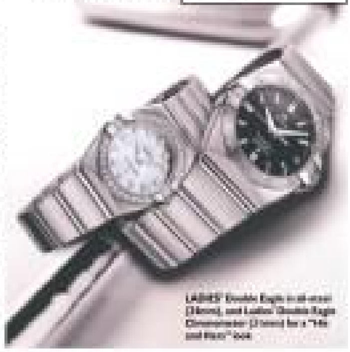
These new babies are also water-resistant to 100m/330 ft.

Is there anything sweeter than this double treat?

The new Double Eagle collection is available at the Omega showroom, G/F, Glorietta 1, Ayala Center, Makati City.



MEN'S Double Eagle Chronograph in all-steel strap



LADIES' Double Eagle in all-steel (28mm), and Ladies' Double Eagle Chronometer (31mm) for a "His and Hers" look



Get ready for Philippine Fashion Week

BRACE YOURSELF FOR THE 2006 Philippine Fashion Week, which will happen very soon.

Now on its ninth year, the style extravaganza promises many spectacular shows and after-parties. The Fashion Week has become the hottest showcase of Philippine fashion, endorsed and participated in by the movers and shakers of the fashion, beauty and lifestyle industries.

In the past, some 30,000 people and over 100 registered media personalities had attended the 10-day event.

Runway Productions' Audie and Joey Espino say this year's batch of designers are set to bring out exciting creations. In last year's Fashion Week alone, over 50 designers from all over the Philippines wowed fashion critics. New talent from Manila, Cebu, Bacolod, Iloilo and Davao got their chance to be in the spotlight as models wearing their creations sashayed down the runways.

In other countries, Fashion Week is used as a vehicle to propel local designers and brands to key status in the global fashion business. But in the Philippines, Fashion Week is positioned as an industry event for designers to showcase their collections.

Designers who want to join the Philippine Fashion Week 2006 may call Runway Productions at 8433457 or e-mail staff@runwayproductions.com.



GERRY Katigbak creation for Philippine Fashion Week 2005